

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A printing device, comprising:

a platen having a supporting face for supporting fabric as a printing medium, the platen moving in an intended direction;

a screen plate used during screen printing fitting detachably onto said supporting face in a state where the printing medium is sandwiched between said screen plate and said supporting face of said platen; and

an ink-jet head for performing ink-jet printing onto said printing medium that has been subjected to screen-printing using said screen plate, in a state where said printing medium is supported on said supporting face of said platen,

wherein said screen plate comprises a first frame member and at least a pair of second frame members, said frame members of said at least one pair of second frame members opposing one another and slidably engaged with an underside of said first frame member by interlocking grooves.

2. (Previously Presented) The printing device according to claim 1, further comprising ink color determining means for setting the color of the ink used in printing using said screen plate to a lighter color than the ink used in printing by said ink-jet head.

3. (Previously Presented) The printing device according to claim 2, wherein said ink color determining means set the color of the ink used in printing using said screen plate to white.

4. (Original) The printing device according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of said screen plates of different types are prepared, each having a different size in accordance

with the thickness of the printing medium, in such a manner that said screen plate fits onto said supporting face in a state with substantially no gaps with respect to the printing medium.

5. (Previously Presented) The printing device according to claim 1, wherein said screen plate or said platen comprises an adjusting mechanism whereby said screen plate can be fitted onto said supporting face in a state with substantially no gaps with respect to the printing medium.

6. (Original) The printing device according to claim 1, wherein said screen plate is of substantially the same shape as said supporting face.

7. (Original) The printing device according to claim 1, wherein the printing medium is a fabric.

8. (Previously Presented) A printing system comprising:
the printing device according to claim 1; and
ink color determining means for setting the color of the ink used in printing by said screen plate to a lighter color than the ink used in printing by said ink-jet head.

9. (Previously Presented) The printing system according to claim 8, wherein said ink color determining means sets the color of the ink used in printing using said screen plate to white.

10. (Currently Amended) A printing method, comprising
mounting a printing medium onto a platen having a supporting face for supporting fabric as a printing medium, the platen moving in an intended direction;
placing a screen plate over the printing medium;
screen printing onto the printing medium using the screen plate; and
ink-jet printing by emitting ink of a darker color than the ink used in said screen printing step, onto the screen printed region, from an ink-jet head with the printing medium on the platen,

wherein said screen plate comprises a first frame member and at least a pair of second frame members, said frame members of said at least one pair of second frame members opposing one another and slidably engaged with an underside of said first frame member by interlocking grooves.

11. (Original) The printing method according to claim 10, wherein the ink used in said screen printing step is white in color.

12. (Currently Amended) A printing device, comprising:
a platen having a supporting face for supporting fabric as a printing medium, the platen moving in an intended direction;

a screen plate used during screen printing fitting said supporting face in a state where the printing medium is sandwiched between said screen plate and said supporting face of said platen;

an ink-jet head for performing ink-jet printing onto said printing medium, that has been subjected to screen-printing using said screen plate, in a state where said printing medium is supported on said supporting face of said platen, and

a frame, wherein the screen plate together with the frame have a lock-and-key relationship with the platen,

wherein said screen plate comprises a first frame member and at least a pair of second frame members, said frame members of said at least one pair of second frame members opposing one another and slidably engaged with an underside of said first frame member by interlocking grooves.

13. (Previously Presented) The printing device according to claim 12, wherein at least one of the screen plate and the frame includes at least one of a projection and a groove, and the platen includes the other of the projection and the groove such that when the screen

plate and the frame are detachably connected to the platen the at least one projection connects with the at least one groove to lock the screen plate in position relative to the platen.

14. (Previously Presented) The printing device according to claim 13, wherein the screen plate is integrally connected to the frame.

15. (Previously Presented) The printing device according to claim 13, wherein the screen plate is detachably attached to the frame.

16. (Canceled)